Statewide Status and Trends Monitoring

As many of you know, there have been a series of workshops focused on status and trends monitoring in Washington. These workshops are hosted by the Dept. of Ecology as recommended by the Monitoring Forum. The purpose of this level of monitoring is to get a broad picture of salmon habitat conditions across the state or region. The results from status and trends monitoring will be used in future State of the Salmon reports. These have been very valuable in communicating salmon issues to lawmakers both at the state and federal level. They have been used to show how expenditures have been used, as well as what the current conditions are to justify future funding.

While the status and trends monitoring has limited use at the local level, there may be opportunities for future partnerships, which is one of the hoped-for outcomes of the workshops.

One advantage that the statewide monitoring can provide to local groups is a broad perspective. Local analysis of habitat data sometimes needs the broad context to better understand their results. For example, if they are seeing habitat changes in their basin, are these same things happening in other basins, and are these changes perhaps due to climate changes rather than a locally caused problem?

However, status and trends monitoring is done very differently than most local measurements. Usually groups have certain sites chosen for a reason, and take their measurements at those sites. It is likely that status and trends monitoring will only use randomly selected sites to determine their results. If a site happens to coincide with a locally selected site, cooperation can easily occur, but that is an unlikely event. Some groups have expressed an interest in adding a couple sites to their current monitoring to help with status and trends too, but as sites are added, costs accrue, and how these will be covered remains an issue.

To-date, three of four planned workshops to develop the status and trends monitoring proposal have already occurred and the last one is scheduled for January 5. The first workshop discussed the scale of monitoring (statewide, regional, and WRIA based) and randomized samples. While no written conclusions have been developed for any of the workshops, the conclusion seemed to be that at least 50 randomized sites will be selected across the state for the minimum program, and more will be added if funding is available or if enough local partnerships can be developed.

The second workshop focused on what sorts of things to measure. This was an interesting workshop, and one of the major recommendations by a couple of the experts is that we don't have to measure the same things at each site. Given differences in climate, landscape, and land use, it makes sense to measure different things in different areas.

The third workshop looked at how to manage data. Often the costs of managing data are overlooked. It was recommended that when a data collection program is being developed, there should be a planned cost of roughly 20% to manage the data. Quality control checks are important, and centralized management of the date base helps keep compatibility and quality control checks in place.

The last workshop will focus on existing data sets, how to potentially use them, and what the final product should look like. Anyone is welcome to attend. It will be held in Olympia at the Natural Resource Building, room 172 from 9 to 3 on January 5.

DOE plans to open a website soon that will contain all the materials used in these workshops in addition to notes collected during the workshops. The link to this site will be emailed to all Conservation District managers when it is provided.

Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

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360/902-3026 (fax)
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Salmon Recovery Funding Board

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STATE OF WASHINGTON

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PO Box 40917
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JAN 0 9 2006

January 5, 2006

TO: Carol Smith

FROM: Bruce Crawford, Governor's Forum on Monitoring

SUBJECT: OFM Report on Monitoring Activities and Databases

Attached you will find survey sheets for all of the WCC monitoring programs and databases identified in the Comprehensive Monitoring Strategy (CMS) and the detailed list of monitoring and database questions to be answered. I have also included a flow chart in an attempt to visualize and categorize WCC monitoring and associated databases under those areas that affect monitoring watershed health to better understand their relationships. Per our previous meeting, please have the appropriate Conservation Commission staff:

- Complete the survey questionnaires for monitoring programs and databases already identified and review the existing data for accuracy and any changes that may have occurred since the CMS was published.
- Be sure to complete the biennial cost component and identify the fund sources involved with each program and database.
- Add new survey sheets for any new or previously unidentified monitoring programs or databases created since the CMS.
- Review the flow charts for accuracy and include any new or previously unidentified monitoring or databases into the flow charts that affect salmon recovery or watershed health. The flow charts were constructed using Visio.
- If you are planning on combining databases or enhancing them, please note the plan and time frames.
- If you have discontinued a monitoring program or database, please indicate on the flow chart with an X through the appropriate box and a discontinuance date.
- If you are proposing to increase any of the monitoring or database programs as part of budget requests for 07-09, please identify those proposals, costs, and services.

I am also sending this information via email so that staff will be able to enter the data electronically and return it to me more easily. Please return your completed survey by April 21.

cc: Mark Clark, WCC
Jim Skalski, OFM

Operating Budget

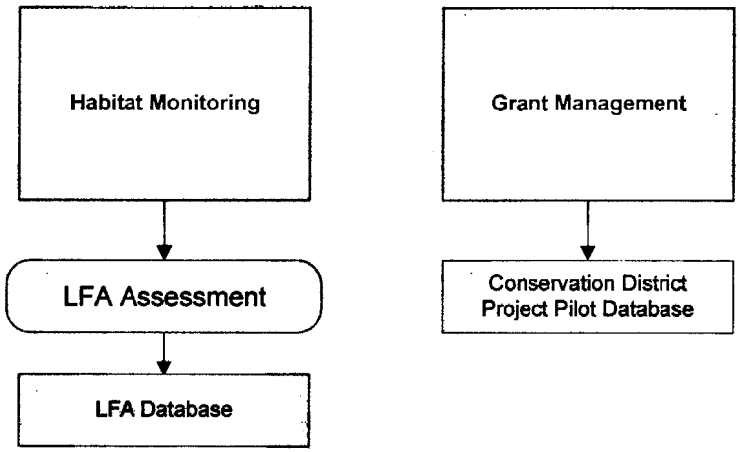
Monitoring and Database Review Required

"(7) The department of ecology, the department of fish and wildlife, the department of natural resources, the conservation commission, and the interagency committee for outdoor recreation shall make recommendations to improve or eliminate monitoring activities related to salmon recovery and watershed health. The agencies shall coordinate with the governor's forum on monitoring and watershed health and consult with the office of financial management in determining the scope and contents of the report.

The agencies shall prepare a report detailing all new activity and updating all previously identified activity within the comprehensive monitoring strategy. The report shall identify the monitoring activity being performed and include: The purpose of the monitoring activity, when the activity started, who uses the information, how often it is accessed, what costs are incurred by fund, what frequency is used to collect data, what geographic location is used to collect data, where the information is stored, and what is the current status and cost by fund source of the data storage systems.

The agencies shall provide a status report summarizing progress to the **governor's forum on monitoring and watershed health** and the office of financial management by **March 1, 2006**. A final report to the governor's monitoring forum, the office of financial management, and the appropriate legislative fiscal committees shall be submitted no later than **September 1, 2006.**" [ESSB6090, Sec. 129]

Conservation Commission
Watershed Health Monitoring Flow Chart



Rounded Boxes are monitoring programs
Square boxes are supporting databases
Costs are expressed as biennial cost

DATABASE SURVEY

	SURVEY QUESTIONS	SURVEY ANSWERS
1	Organization	Conservation Commission
2	Database	Watershed Data Pilot Project
3	Database acronym	Pilot
4	Provide an overview of the data content in this database	Pilot will explore a single repository to track, manage, and report at local, regional, and statewide basis all habitat projects developed by the conservation districts
5	Provide the name of the monitoring program(s) this database supports	
6	Are there other databases that contain the same information? If so, which databases?	
7	Is this database specifically identified by statute? What statute?	
8	Is this database active?	Pilot
9	Geospatially referenced?	Yes
10	Frequency of data entry	
11	Number of years database has been in operation?	Being constructed
12	Does this database contain metadata describing content?	
13	Where is this database located?	
14	What is the basic architecture of the database	
15	Charge money for the data?	
16	Data sensitive or proprietary?	
17	Raw data made available?	
18	Data contact person	Glenn Briskin 360-561-0897
19	Does this database generate reports? If so, what kind of reports	
20	Analyzed/summarized data made available?	
21	Who uses this database?	
22	Does Database generate maps?	
23	Data exist as GIS coverage?	
24	What is the biennial cost to operate and maintain this database? What are the fund sources?	
25	Are these funds dedicated or short term project funding? If short term, when will funding terminate?	
26	How would you rank the importance of this database for conducting agency business? (redundant, not necessary, low, medium, high, mission critical) Why?	

RESOURCE MONITORING PROGRAM SURVEY

	SURVEY QUESTIONS	SURVEY ANSWERS
1	Organization	Conservation Commission
2	**Monitoring Program Name**	Statewide Salmon Habitat Limiting Factors Analysis
3	**Contact**	Carol Smith
4	**Program described in CMS survey?**	Yes
5	**What department or division is it under?**	
6	Purpose of the monitoring program including monitoring questions being answered	ID habitat problems that are preventing natural spawning salmon populations from reaching their full potential.
7	**Audience/customer/user**	All parties interested in Salmon Habitat Restoration.
8	**Authority**	Title 77 RCW; Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2496; Section 10 (1998)
9	**Relates to watershed health and salmon recovery**	Directly
10	**Date monitoring program began or ended?**	
11	**Type of monitoring**	Assessment
12	**Monitoring design**	
13	**Primary geographic focus**	Statewide
14	**Are monitoring sites geospatially referenced?**	Partially
15	**Does monitoring program provide data with known precision and certainty?**	
16	Salmon Recovery Region(s)	Lower Columbia; Middle Columbia; NE Washington; Puget Sound; Snake River; Upper Columbia; Washington Coast
17	**Frequency of sample collection**	
18	What data are collected at sample sites?	Freshwater Surface Water Quality; Hydrology; Instream Habitat; Land Use; Marine/Estuarine Water Quality; Predation Of Salmonids; Riparian Habitat; Salmonid Passage; Salmonid Productivity; Waterway and Channel Modification
19	**Monitoring Program biennial cost and fund sources**	
20	**What is the name of the database(s) where these monitoring data reside?**	
21	**How often do you analyze, summarize, compile raw data?**	As Needed; As Resources Permit
22	**Report/publish data?**	As Needed; As Resources Permit
23	**Analyzed/summarized data made available?**	Web Downloadable; Web Viewable
24	**What is URL?**	www.conserver.org/salmon/reports/index.shtml
25	**Do other agencies collect data for this monitoring program? If so whom?**	yes
26	**Data readily available on maps?**	yes
27	**Data exist as GIS coverage?**	
28	**Do other agencies rely upon data from this program for decision making? What decisions?**	
29	**How would you rank the importance of this monitoring program for conducting agency business? (redundant, not necessary,**	

RESOURCE MONITORING PROGRAM SURVEY

	low, medium, high, mission critical) Why?	

DATABASE SURVEY

	SURVEY QUESTIONS	SURVEY ANSWERS
1	Organization	Conservation Commission
2	Database	Statewide Salmon Habitat Limiting Factors Database
3	Database acronym	LFA
4	Provide an overview of the data content in this database	Freshwater surface water quality, hydrology, instream habitat, land use, marine/estuarine water quality, predation of salmonids, riparian habitat, salmonid passage, salmonid productivity, waterway and channel modification
5	Provide the name of the monitoring program(s) this database supports	Limiting Factors Assessment
6	Are there other databases that contain the same information? If so, which databases?	
7	Is this database specifically identified by statute? What statute?	77RCW ESB 2496 Section 10 (1998)
8	Is this database active?	Yes
9	Geospatially referenced?	Yes
10	Frequency of data entry	
11	Number of years database has been in operation?	
12	Does this database contain metadata describing content?	
13	Where is this database located?	
14	What is the basic architecture of the database	
15	Charge money for the data?	No
16	Data sensitive or proprietary?	No
17	Raw data made available?	Email; web viewable, web downloadable
18	Data contact person	Carol Smith
19	Does this database generate reports? If so, what kind of reports	
20	Analyzed/summarized data made available?	
21	Who uses this database?	All parties interested in salmon habitat restoration
22	Does Database generate maps?	Yes
23	Data exist as GIS coverage?	Yes
24	What is the biennial cost to operate and maintain this database? What are the fund sources?	
25	Are these funds dedicated or short term project funding? If short term, when will funding terminate?	
26	How would you rank the importance of this database for conducting agency business? (redundant, not necessary, low, medium, high, mission critical) Why?	